

**[SINGLE LENDER FORM]**

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**GUARANTEE AGREEMENT**

dated as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000

between

THE EMERGENCY [STEEL] [OIL AND GAS] LOAN GUARANTEE BOARD

and

[THE LENDER]

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Emergency [Steel] [Oil and Gas] Loan Guarantee Board Guarantee No. [ ]

## [SINGLE LENDER FORM]

This **GUARANTEE AGREEMENT** (this “Guarantee”) dated as of [ ], 2000, is made by and between [ ], its successors and permitted assigns (the “Lender”) and the Emergency [Steel] [Oil and Gas] Loan Guarantee Board, an instrumentality of the United States of America (the “Board”).

**WHEREAS**, the Board was created pursuant to the Emergency [Steel Loan Guarantee] [Oil and Gas Guaranteed Loan Program] Act of 1999, Pub. L. No. 106-51 (the “Act”);

**WHEREAS**, the Act establishes the Emergency [Steel] [Oil and Gas] Guaranteed Loan Program to be administered by the Board, the purpose of which is to provide guarantees of loans to qualified [steel and iron ore][oil and gas] companies;

**WHEREAS**, the Lender has made an application pursuant to the Act dated [ ] (the “Application”) for the guarantee by the Board of a loan by the Lender to [ ] (the “Borrower”), and the Application has received the preliminary approval of the Board as reflected in the Offer of Guarantee issued by the Board and dated [ ] (the “Offer of Guarantee”), a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

**WHEREAS**, the Lender and the Borrower have, on the date hereof, entered into a loan agreement (the “Loan Agreement”) in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B;

**WHEREAS**, the Lender and the Borrower have satisfied the conditions to the issuance of this Guarantee set out in the Offer of Guarantee, including, without limitation, the execution and delivery of certain agreements and instruments required to secure Borrower’s obligations under the Loan Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, subject to the terms and conditions of this Guarantee, the Board is willing to guarantee to the Lender the payment of certain of Borrower’s obligations under the Loan Agreement;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants herein contained, the parties hereby agree as follows:

### **SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS AND PRINCIPLES OF CONSTRUCTION**

1.1. **Defined Terms**. For the purposes of this Guarantee, the following terms shall have the meanings specified below:

“**Act**” has the meaning set forth in the recitals hereof.

“**Application**” has the meaning set forth in the recitals hereof.

“Board” has the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph hereof.

“Borrower” has the meaning set forth in the recitals hereof.

“Business Day” means any day on which the Federal Reserve Bank of New York is open for business.

“Collection” means any collection of funds under the Loan Documents either (i) paid by or on behalf of the Borrower, or any trustee in bankruptcy or receiver thereof, following any Payment Default or (ii) resulting from the foreclosure on and liquidation of the Security, together with any interest or other earnings on such funds following their collection; but excluding, in any case, payments made under this Guarantee.

“Default” means any default by Borrower, other than a Payment Default, on its obligations under the Loan Agreement which has not been cured by Borrower or waived by the Lender (to the extent permitted under Section 5.5) within any applicable grace period.

“Eligible Lender” means a private banking or investment institution eligible for the benefit of this Guarantee under the terms of the Act and the Regulations.

“Guarantee” means this Guarantee Agreement, including the Exhibits hereto, as amended or otherwise modified from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof.

“Guarantee Fee” has the meaning set forth in Section 2.5.

“Guaranteed Amount” means [                      ] United States dollars (U.S.\$[                      ]).<sup>1</sup>

“Guaranteed Percentage” means [                      ] percent ([                      ]%), which is the percentage of the maximum principal amount of the Loan which is represented by the Guaranteed Amount.

“Lender” has the meaning set forth in the introductory paragraph hereof.

“Loan” means the credit extended to Borrower by the Lender under the Loan Agreement.

“Loan Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the recitals hereof and includes any notes issued by Borrower thereunder.

“Loan Documents” means the Loan Agreement, the Security Documents and any other document delivered thereunder or otherwise in connection with the making of the Loan or the giving of the Security (other than this Guarantee).

“Offer of Guarantee” has the meaning set forth in the recitals hereof.

“Payment Default” means any failure of Borrower to pay any amount of principal of the Loan when and as due under the Loan Agreement (including, without limitation, following any acceleration thereunder) which has not been cured within any applicable grace period.

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<sup>1</sup> Not to exceed the lesser of (i) 85% of the maximum principal amount of the Loan and (ii) 85% of U.S.\$[250,000,000] [10,000,000].

“Payment Demand” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.

“Reasonable Costs of Collection” means costs, fees and expenses incurred by the Lender following any Payment Default, including, without limitation, by any of its designees, consultants and attorneys, in connection with maintaining any Security or obtaining any Collection to the extent that such costs and expenses are duly documented, reasonably incurred and reasonable in amount taking into consideration the potential amount of and prospects for success in obtaining any particular Collection as appeared at the time the costs and expenses were incurred in connection with such Collection.

“Regulations” means the federal regulations promulgated under the Act and published at 13 C.F.R. Part [400] [500].

“Security” means all (i) security interests in property, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, and (ii) guarantees (other than this Guarantee), including security interests in property securing such guarantees, in either case given in connection with the Loan as security for Borrower’s payment obligations under the Loan Agreement.

“Security Documents” means all agreements, instruments, filings, registrations, recordings or other similar documents necessary or required to create, record, perfect, evidence or enforce against the Security, including, without limitation, any common security agreement.

“United States” or “U.S.” means the United States of America.

## 1.2. Principles of Construction.

(a) The meanings set forth for defined terms in Section 1.1 or elsewhere in this Guarantee shall be equally applicable to both the singular and plural forms of the terms defined.

(b) Unless otherwise specified, all references in this Guarantee to Sections and Exhibits are to Sections and Exhibits in or to this Guarantee.

(c) The headings of the Sections in this Guarantee are included for convenience only and shall not in any way affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Guarantee.

(d) In the event of any inconsistency between the terms of this Guarantee and any other Loan Document or the Offer of Guarantee, the terms of this Guarantee shall govern.

(e) A reference to any law includes any amendment or modification of such law, and all regulations, rulings and other laws promulgated under such law.

(f) References to any document, instrument or agreement (i) shall include all exhibits, schedules and other attachments thereto, and (ii) means such document, instrument or agreement as amended, modified and supplemented from time to time pursuant to the terms thereof and in effect at any given time.

## **SECTION 2. THE GUARANTEE**

2.1. **Guarantee.** Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Guarantee, the Board hereby guarantees to the Lender the repayment by Borrower of the outstanding and unpaid principal amount of the Loan; provided, however, that (i) in no event shall the liability of the Board under this Section 2 exceed the Guaranteed Amount, and (ii) in connection with any claim by the Lender for payment under this Guarantee as the result of a Payment Default by Borrower in an amount less than the total principal amount of the Loan, the Board shall be obligated to pay only the Guaranteed Percentage of the defaulted principal amount.

2.2. **Coverage of the Guarantee.** For the avoidance of doubt, this Guarantee shall not extend to the repayment of any of the following amounts:

(i) any principal amount of the Loan in excess of the Guaranteed Amount or in excess of the Guaranteed Percentage of any defaulted principal amount;

(ii) any interest payable under the Loan Agreement (other than to the extent capitalized under the terms of the Loan Agreement prior to any Default or Payment Default); or

(iii) any penalties, fees, indemnified amounts, costs or expenses payable under the Loan Agreement.

2.3. **Termination of Guarantee Obligations.** The guarantee obligations of the Board provided in Section 2.1 shall terminate in accordance with the following:

(a) In the event that the Lender fails to make a Payment Demand on the Board within thirty (30) days from the date of any Payment Default, the Board's guarantee obligation with respect to the unpaid principal as to which such Payment Default relates shall automatically terminate; provided, however, that such termination shall be without prejudice to the right of the Lender to demand, and shall not limit the obligation of the Board to make, payment under this Guarantee with respect to any other Payment Default.

(b) The Board's obligations under Section 2.1 shall automatically terminate in the event that:

(i) the Lender has been repaid the total principal amount of the Loan by Borrower, by the Board or from Collections, or any combination thereof;

(ii) the Board has paid to the Lender the Guaranteed Amount or an amount equal to the Guaranteed Percentage of the principal amount of the Loan remaining to be paid by Borrower; or

(iii) the Guarantee Fee has not been paid in full by the Borrower when and as required pursuant to Section 2.5.

(c) The Board's obligations under Section 2.1 shall automatically terminate also in the event that:

(i) the Lender is in breach of any provision or obligation under this Guarantee or under any Loan Document the breach of which would reasonably be expected to have or threaten a material adverse affect on the rights or interests of the Board, and such breach continues unremedied (and is not waived by the Board in accordance with Section 6.6) for a period of thirty (30) days;

(ii) any of the representations and warranties of the Lender under Section 4.1 was incorrect in any material respect when made; or

(iii) the Lender either (1) transfers any of its interests under the Loan Documents or this Guarantee contrary to the provisions of Section 5.6 or (2) obtains any interest in Security contrary to the prohibition set out in Section 5.10.

2.4. [Revocation of Borrower's Payment](#). The provisions of clause (i) of Section 2.3(b) notwithstanding, the obligations of the Board shall continue to be binding on the Board with respect to any payment, or any part thereof, by Borrower of principal of the Loan that is rescinded or must otherwise be returned by the Lender if such rescission or return of payment has been compelled by law as the result of the bankruptcy or insolvency of Borrower, or if such rescission or return of payment is a result of any other law, regulation or decree applicable to Borrower; provided, however, that, to the extent consistent with the standard of care set out in Section 5.9, (i) the Lender shall have pursued diligently any available defenses to such rescission or return, and (ii) the Lender shall not have taken or failed to take any action resulting in any impairment, release or termination of the rights of the Lender or the Board in the Security. A Payment Demand in respect of any such returned principal payment must be made by the Lender promptly but in no event later than thirty (30) days after a final and non-appealable order compelling the return of such principal payment.

2.5. [The Guarantee Fee](#). The Lender, on behalf of Borrower, shall pay (or cause the Borrower to pay) to the United States Department of the Treasury a fee in the amount of [ ] United States dollars (U.S.\$ [ ]) <sup>2</sup> (the "Guarantee Fee"). Payment of the Guarantee Fee is to be made on or before the earlier of (i) the day which is three hundred sixty five days from the date hereof or, if such day is not a Business Day, then the next succeeding Business Day, and (ii) the day on which the first Payment Demand, if any, is made. Payment of the Guarantee Fee shall be made by wire transfer in immediately available funds to such bank and account as is designated for such purpose in writing by the Board.

2.6. [Waiver of Conditions](#). The Board hereby waives diligence, presentment, protest and any requirement, as a condition to the Board's obligations under Section 2.1, that the Lender exhaust any right or take any action against or give any notice to the Borrower, any party to a Security Document, or the Board other than such notices, actions and conditions as are expressly provided under this Guarantee.

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<sup>2</sup> The Guarantee Fee is equal to one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the maximum principal amount of the Loan, whether or not drawn.

### **SECTION 3. CLAIM PROCEDURES**

3.1. **Notice of Payment Default.** In addition to and irrespective of any notice required to be given under Section 5.3, the Lender shall notify the Board in writing of any Payment Default, such notice to be given immediately upon the occurrence of such Payment Default, and in any event within three Business Days thereof.

3.2. **Acceleration.** In determining, following any Payment Default or Default, whether to accelerate the maturity of any amounts outstanding under the Loan Agreement or otherwise to declare such amounts to be immediately due and payable, the Lender shall act at all times in accordance with the standard of care and diligence required under Section 5.9; it being understood that any acceleration based upon a Payment Default or upon the failure of the Borrower to pay interest when due (after giving effect to all applicable grace periods) shall be conclusively presumed consistent with such standard.

3.3. **Demand for Payment.** Following any Payment Default, the Lender shall be entitled to make a demand in writing of the Board for payment under this Guarantee in respect of the defaulted principal (a "Payment Demand"). Any Payment Demand (i) shall be made not later than thirty (30) days from the date of the Payment Default, (ii) shall identify the amount and due date of the defaulted payment of principal and the outstanding amounts of principal and interest under the Loan, (iii) shall describe briefly the circumstances leading to the Payment Default, including, without limitation, the nature of any precipitating Default, whether an acceleration has occurred, and whether a bankruptcy proceeding has been instituted or threatened, and (iv) shall be accompanied by a copy of each of the Loan Documents, this Guarantee and all notices and other correspondence with the Borrower relating to the Payment Default and any precipitating Default.

3.4. **Additional Information.** Following any Payment Demand being made, the Lender shall furnish to the Board promptly upon request from the Board and, in any event, not later than ninety (90) days from the date of such request, each of the following:

(a) a written, detailed and reasonable plan for the partial or complete foreclosure on and liquidation of the Security, including, without limitation, detailed estimates by the Lender of the time and Reasonable Costs of Collection anticipated to be necessary in order to carry out such plan; and

(b) a written, detailed and reasonable work-out plan, if such a plan is feasible, for the continued operation of the Borrower calculated, in Lender's judgment, to assure the best prospect for repayment of principal and interest under the Loan without partial or complete foreclosure and liquidation of the Security, including, without limitation, detailed estimates of the time and expense required for such work-out and an assessment of the risks to the Lender and the Board associated therewith relative to such risks associated with complete foreclosure and liquidation; and, if any partial foreclosure and liquidation is a part of such proposed work-out plan, a detailed estimate of the time and Reasonable Costs of Collection anticipated by the Lender to be required to effect such partial liquidation.

3.5. [Conclusive Presumption Regarding Demand](#). By making a Payment Demand under Section 3.3, the Lender shall be conclusively deemed to have certified, with full knowledge of the provisions of 18 U.S.C. §1001 and 31 U.S.C. §3729 including, without limitation, the provisions thereof for penalties and damages, to the Board that it has fully and timely complied with all material provisions and obligations under this Guarantee and the Loan Documents, that the amount demanded is past due and owing by Borrower under the Loan Agreement, and that the demand is properly made and required to be satisfied by the Board under the terms of this Guarantee.

3.6. [Board's Right to Investigate](#). Following receipt of any Payment Demand, the Board or, on its behalf, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Commerce, the Comptroller General of the United States, and any of their duly authorized representatives or designees, may conduct an audit and investigation of compliance by the Lender with all material provisions and obligations under this Guarantee. The Lender shall cooperate fully and diligently with any such audit and investigation in accordance with the requirements of Section 5.8.

3.7. [Payment By the Board](#). Within sixty (60) days from receipt by the Board of a Payment Demand, the Board shall pay to the Lender the amount required to be paid under Section 2.1 in respect of the unpaid principal amount under the Loan to which the Payment Demand relates. Such payment shall be made irrespective of whether any audit and investigation under Section 3.6 or Section 5.8 is pending or whether information remains to be furnished by the Lender under Section 3.4; provided, however, that payment shall not be made to the extent it is determined by the Board, whether as the result of such audit and investigation or otherwise, that the Board's payment obligation has terminated in accordance with the terms of Section 2.3. Payment shall be made by wire transfer in immediately available funds to the bank and account designated by the Lender for such purpose.

3.8. [Foreclosure and Liquidation](#). The rights under the Loan Documents to foreclose on and liquidate the Security shall be exercised by the Lender under the terms of the Loan Documents in accordance at all times with the standard of care and diligence required under Section 5.9. In so doing, the Lender shall take into consideration the feasibility of and risks associated with any work-out plan referred to in Section 3.4(b). The Board shall participate in any determination of whether to foreclose and liquidate solely by reason of, and to the extent of, any subrogation to and assignment of such right to participate under the terms of the Loan Documents in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.11.

3.9. [Application of Collections](#). Collections shall be applied as follows:

first, to the Reasonable Costs of Collection;

second, to interest accrued and unpaid under the Loan Agreement on a pro rata basis in accordance with the parties' respective interests therein, it being understood that, to the extent the Board has made payment to the Lender under this Guarantee in respect of unpaid principal of the Loan which has not been recovered through Collections, interest on the amount of, and from the time of, such payment shall accrue to the benefit of the Board at the rate payable by the Borrower on past-due principal amounts under the Loan Agreement;



third, to principal then unpaid and past due under the Loan Agreement on a pro rata basis in accordance with the parties' respective interests therein taking into account any payment by the Board under this Guarantee in respect of unpaid principal of the Loan; and

fourth, to any other unpaid and past due obligations of Borrower under the Loan Agreement on a pro rata basis in accordance with the parties' respective interests therein.

The foregoing application of Collections shall be solely as between the Lender and the Board under this Guarantee and, to the extent the two may be inconsistent, shall not be construed as affecting in any respect the application of funds under the terms of the Loan Agreement as between Borrower and the Lender (and the Board to the extent it is assigned or subrogated to the Lender's rights and interests under the Loan Agreement). Collections shall not be applied to any costs, fees or expenses incurred by the Lender in effecting or attempting to effect Collections which are not Reasonable Costs of Collection, and the Lender shall have no right of contribution, indemnification, reimbursement or recovery therefor against the Board, except that Collections may be applied to such costs, fees and expenses under the fourth priority set out above to the extent payable by Borrower under the Loan Agreement.

3.10. [Accounting and Reports; Payment of Collections](#). While any foreclosure and liquidation is being conducted, or any work-out plan is being pursued, by the Lender, they shall account to the Board for all Collections realized, and the Lender shall provide the Board, within thirty (30) days from the end of each calendar quarter, with a report on (i) the progress of such foreclosure and liquidation or work-out plan, (ii) the disposition of Security, (iii) the amount of each Collection realized in such calendar quarter and the Reasonable Costs of Collection incurred in connection with each such Collection, and (iv) any additional actions or proceedings considered necessary for the successful completion of such foreclosure and liquidation or work-out plan. Within sixty (60) days from the end of each calendar quarter following any Payment Demand, the Lender and the Board shall agree upon the amount of Collections realized during such prior quarter which is required to be paid to the Board in order that the application of Collections provided for under Section 3.9 be given effect, on a cumulative basis, as of the end of such prior quarter, and such amount shall be paid on or before such sixtieth day or, if such day is not a Business Day, on the next succeeding Business Day, by wire transfer in immediately available funds to such account as the Board may designate in writing for such purpose.

3.11. [Subrogation and Assignment](#). Upon any payment by the Board to the Lender under this Guarantee, the Board shall become subrogated to, and the Lender shall be deemed to have assigned to the Board, without recourse and without need of any further action, such right, title and interest in and to the Loan, the Security and the Loan Documents as is equivalent to the Board's right to receive Collections under Sections 3.9 and 3.10 and, to such extent, the Board shall have the right to enforce or participate in any claim (including, without limitation, any claim in bankruptcy), right or remedy that the Lender then has or may thereafter acquire against the Borrower and the Security under the Loan Documents and shall be entitled to the benefit of and any right to participate in any Security and Collections then or thereafter held or acquired by the Lender. The Lender shall, upon request by the Board, execute and deliver such documents and take such other actions as may be necessary to evidence or give effect to such subrogation and assignment.

3.12. Board Payment Does Not Discharge Borrower. Any statute or judicial decision to the contrary notwithstanding, no payment by the Board to the Lender under this Guarantee shall reduce, discharge, satisfy or terminate any obligation of Borrower under any of the Loan Documents or any obligation of any party to the Security Documents.

3.13. No Waiver of Recovery by the Board. No payment made by the Board under this Guarantee to the Lender shall constitute a waiver by the Board of any of the Board's claims, rights or defenses against the Lender relating thereto (including, without limitation, the Board's rights under Section 5.7). The Board shall retain the right to recover such payment if and to the extent that the Board's obligations under this Guarantee later prove to have been subject to termination at the time of such payment in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.3, together with interest thereon calculated from the date of such payment by the Board until recovered by the Board at the rate per annum determined in accordance with the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 3717, as amended.

#### **SECTION 4. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

4.1. Representations and Warranties of the Lender. The Lender represents and warrants to the Board as follows:

(a) Eligibility. It is an Eligible Lender and, to the best of its knowledge following due inquiry consistent with the standard set out in Section 5.9, and the Borrower is eligible under the terms of the Act and the Regulations for a loan benefiting from this Guarantee.

(b) Bring-down of Representations. All of the certifications, representations and warranties of the Lender contained in the Application, and the information and documentation provided by the Lender with the Application, including, without limitation, with respect to the Borrower or the Security, were when made or given, and are as of the date hereof, true, correct and complete in all material respects to the best of the Lender's knowledge following due inquiry consistent with the standard set out in Section 5.9.

(c) Compliance with Conditions. The Lender, has complied with all conditions to the issuance by the Board of this Guarantee as set out in the Act, Regulations and Offer of Guarantee. As of the date hereof, to the best of its knowledge following due inquiry consistent with the standard set out in Section 5.9, there has been no material adverse change since the submission to the Board of the Application in the value of the Security or in the business, operations, assets, liabilities (contingent or otherwise), prospects or financial condition of the Borrower. To the best of the Lender's knowledge following due inquiry consistent with the standard set out in Section 5.9, the Borrower has complied with all conditions to the making of the Loan as required under the Loan Agreement.

(d) Administration of the Loan. The Lender has the ability to administer the Loan, perform its obligations under the Loan Documents, and exercise its rights and remedies under the Loan Documents, including, without limitation, conducting any foreclosure on and liquidation of the Security, in full compliance with the standard set out in Section 5.9, and without the need for any advice, opinion, determination, recommendation, approval, disapproval, assistance (financial or other) or participation by the Board, except where the Board's consent is

expressly required by this Guarantee, or where the Board, in its sole discretion, elects to provide the same.

(e) [Security Interests](#). With respect to the Security Documents and the Security: (i) the Security Documents, subject only to any qualifications expressed in the opinions of law addressed to the Board and delivered as a part of Loan Documents, create perfected security interests in and to all of the property pledged thereunder having such priority as is purportedly established by such Security Documents, all in compliance with the requirements of Section [400][500].204(c)(2) and (3) of the Regulations; (ii) each of the Security Documents is a legal, valid and binding obligation of each of the parties thereto enforceable against them by the Lender and, in accordance with the terms of this Guarantee, by the Board; and (iii) the Lender has taken or caused to be taken all actions necessary, consistent with the standard set out in Section 5.9, to enforce the Security Documents and to perfect the security interests created thereunder, including, without limitation, the obtaining of signatures, the giving of notices, and the making of filings with governmental agencies. The Lender has no interest in any Security other than as created under the Security Documents.

#### 4.2. [\[Intentionally Omitted.\]](#)

### **SECTION 5. ADDITIONAL UNDERTAKINGS OF THE LENDER**

In addition to their other obligations under this Guarantee, the Lender agrees as follows:

#### 5.1. [\[Intentionally Omitted.\]](#)

5.2. [Register](#). The Lender shall establish and maintain a register for recording with respect to the Loan the date and amount of (i) each payment of principal and interest made by or on behalf of the Borrower, (ii) each payment made by the Board hereunder, and (iii) each Collection, as well as the application of each such Collection in accordance with the terms hereof. At the Board's request, the Lender shall make such register, or a copy thereof certified by the Lender as true, complete and correct, available to the Board. The Lender shall maintain such register until such time as the guarantee obligation of the Board has terminated pursuant to Section 2.3(b) and, upon such termination, the Lender shall deliver to the Board a copy of the register, certified by the Lender as a true, complete and correct copy.

5.3. [Monitoring; Notices](#). The Lender shall monitor Borrower's performance of its obligations and observance of its covenants under the Loan Documents. The Lender shall notify the Board promptly, but in no event later than five Business Days after receipt of knowledge, of the following: (i) the occurrence of any Default; (ii) the deterioration, downgrading or negative reassessment of any risk rating assigned internally by the Lender to the Loan, and the reasons for such deterioration or downgrading; (iii) the occurrence of any material adverse change in the value of the Security or in the business, operations, assets, liabilities (contingent or otherwise), prospects or financial condition of the Borrower; (iv) the occurrence of any default by Borrower under any of Borrower's other indebtedness or agreements which default the Lender reasonably determines could affect materially and adversely Borrower's ability to repay its indebtedness under the Loan Agreement; (v) the receipt of any prepayment made by or on behalf of Borrower under the Loan Agreement; (vi) the making of any claim for the rescission or return of any

payment previously made by Borrower to Lender under the circumstances described in Section 2.4; (vii) the breach by any party to a Security Document of its obligations thereunder; (viii) the breach by the Lender of any of its obligations under this Guarantee or under any Loan Document; and (ix) the acceleration of any amounts outstanding under the Loan Agreement.

5.4. Other Information. In addition, the Lender shall provide the Board with each of the following: (i) within fifteen (15) days from receipt by the Lender under the terms of the Loan Agreement, Borrower's annual financial statements, which shall be prepared and presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards and audited by an independent certified public accountant or accounting firm in accordance with generally accepted auditing procedures; (ii) within fifteen (15) days from receipt by the Lender under the terms of the Loan Agreement following the end of each of Borrower's fiscal years during the term of the Loan, projected balance sheets and statements of cash flow and income as of the end of each subsequent year any part of which is within the term of the Loan as prepared by Borrower, together with notice of any fact known to the Lender which in its judgement calls into question the reasonableness of such projections; (iii) within fifteen (15) days following the end of each calendar quarter within the term of the Loan, a Quarterly Compliance Statement, in the form of Exhibit C, completed by the Lender and executed by its duly authorized representative; and (iv) within fifteen (15) days thereof, notice of any amendment of, or waiver, release or covenant not to sue under, any provision of any of the Loan Documents which is permitted under Section 5.5 without the consent of the Board. It is expressly understood and agreed that the right of the Board to receive the information and notices required to be delivered under Section 5.3 and under this Section 5.4 and their receipt by the Board shall not create any duty or impose any obligation on the Board to take any action in response thereto, and that the obligation of the Lender to deliver such information and notices and their delivery by the Lender shall in no way change, lessen or discharge any other duty or obligation of the Lender imposed by this Guarantee, by the Loan Documents or by law.

5.5. Prohibited Amendments. The Lender shall not, without the Board's prior written consent, agree to or permit any amendment of, or waiver, release or covenant not to sue under, any provision of any of the Loan Documents, other than waivers with respect to administrative matters which would not reasonably be expected to have a material adverse affect on the rights and interests of the Lender or the Board. The Board shall act promptly in response to any request from the Lender for such permission. The Lender shall not, without the prior written consent of the Board, capitalize any interest or permit the Borrower to make any draw under the Loan Agreement in the event there has occurred a Default or Payment Default.

5.6. Transfer of Rights, Duties and Responsibilities. The Lender shall not assign, convey, sell or otherwise transfer any of its rights or delegate any of its obligations under any of the Loan Documents or under this Guarantee without the prior written consent of the Board, which may be granted in the Board's sole discretion and, in any event, only to an Eligible Lender with respect to one hundred percent (100%) of its rights and obligations under the Loan Documents and this Guarantee; it being understood that nothing herein is intended to limit the Lender's right to grant participations in the Loan and the benefits of this Guarantee to other Eligible Lenders, in which event the Lender shall promptly notify the Board in writing of each such Eligible Lender's identity and the extent of the participation granted; provided, however, that in no event shall any party so granted a participation be deemed a third-party beneficiary

under this Guarantee or have any claim or right of action against the Board, nor shall the granting of any such participation diminish or alter in any way the obligations of the Lender under this Guarantee or the Loan Documents.

5.7. [Indemnification](#). In addition to the Board's rights under Section 3.13, in the event that (i) the Lender fails to perform any of its obligations or to observe any of its covenants under this Guarantee or under any Loan Document, or (ii) any representation or warranty of the Lender proves to have been incorrect in any material respect when made, then the Lender shall be liable to the Board for all damages suffered and costs incurred by the Board as the result thereof, and shall indemnify the Board for such damages and costs (including, without limitation, counsel fees and expenses incurred by the Board in enforcing its rights under this Section 5.7). The Board may enforce its rights to indemnification hereunder, and pursue all remedies available with respect thereto, in any court of competent jurisdiction. Anything to the contrary contained herein notwithstanding, the obligation of the Lender to indemnify the Board shall survive the termination of this Guarantee and the payment of all or any portion of the Guaranteed Amount.

5.8. [Audit and Investigation; Cooperation](#). In addition to the rights of the Board under Section 3.6, in the event that the Board at any time has reason to believe that there has occurred any breach, negligence, fraud or misrepresentation on the part of the Borrower or the Lender in connection with the Application, the Offer of Guarantee, the Loan, the Loan Documents or this Guarantee, then the Board or, on its behalf, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Commerce, the Comptroller General of the United States, and any of their duly authorized representatives or designees, shall be entitled to conduct an audit or investigation relating thereto. The Lender shall cooperate fully and diligently with any such audit or investigation conducted under this Section 5.8 or under Section 3.6. Such cooperation shall include, without limitation, providing promptly upon request, and in any event not later than thirty (30) days following such request, each of the following: (i) the originals (at such time or times and at such place or places as shall be reasonable) or, if so requested, copies of all relevant books, documents, correspondence, papers, and other records (including, without limitation, records stored electronically) in the possession or control of the Lender; (ii) the names and business and residence addresses of all persons (including, without limitation, all employees and officials of the Lender) who prepared or supervised any preparation of, or who maintained or supervised any maintenance of, any of the aforementioned records, and of all persons who participated, in whole or in part, in any matter referred to or reflected in any of such records, or in any other matter relating to or connected with the Application, the Offer of Guarantee, the Loan, this Guarantee or any of the Loan Documents; and (iii) to the extent able to do so, for individual interview at such time and place as shall be reasonable, each of the persons specified in clause (ii) above.

5.9. [Duty of Care and Diligence](#). The Lender shall exercise its rights and perform its obligations under the Loan Documents and under this Guarantee using at all times such care and diligence as would be used by a reasonable and prudent banking institution in connection with a secured loan of such institution's own funds without benefit of a federal guarantee. Any and all actions, approvals, determinations, permissions, acceptances, requirements, or recommendations to be taken, made, given, imposed or reached by the Lender under this Guarantee shall be so taken, made, given, imposed or reached in conformity with the standard of care and diligence specified in the preceding sentence hereof.



5.10. [Maintenance of Security](#). The Lender shall take all actions and exercise all rights under the Loan Documents required or advisable, consistent with the standard of care set out in Section 5.9, to provide for the care, preservation, maintenance and continuation of the Lender's and the Board's rights in and to the Security. The Lender shall not obtain any interest in Security other than Security in which the Lender and the Board share equally and ratably in accordance with their interests in the Loan.

5.11. [Written Recommendations](#). Without limiting the scope of the application of the duty of care and diligence set forth in Section 5.9, the Lender shall, exercising such standard of care and diligence, timely advise the Board of its position in connection with each event or matter with respect to which any consent, acceptance, approval, determination or decision is required or permitted to be made by the Lender and the Board, or solely by the Board, pursuant to the terms of this Guarantee.

5.12. [Authorized Representatives](#). The Lender shall, as necessary from time to time, deliver to the Board evidence, in the form of an officer's certificate (including specimen signatures), of the authority of each person authorized to act as on behalf of the Lender in the performance of its obligations under this Guarantee. The Board may rely on such evidence of authority provided by the Lender, and the Board shall not be required to make any further inquiry with respect to the matters stated therein. The Lender shall be irrevocably bound by each notice or other document delivered under this Guarantee which is purportedly executed on behalf of the Lender in a manner consistent with such evidence of authority.

## **SECTION 6. MISCELLANEOUS**

6.1. [Governing Law](#). This Guarantee shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the federal law of the United States, it being understood and agreed that, to the extent applicable federal law may require reference to state law, then reference shall be made to the law of the State of New York, irrespective of the domicile of the Lender or Borrower.

6.2. [Waiver of Jury Trial](#). For the purposes of this Guarantee, each party hereto knowingly, voluntarily and intentionally waives any rights it may otherwise have to a trial by jury in respect of any litigation based on, or arising out of, under or in connection with, this Guarantee.

6.3. [Notices](#). All notices given hereunder shall (i) be in writing, (ii) include the applicable Board guarantee number, (iii) be delivered by overnight courier, personal delivery or telecopy with simultaneous mailing, (iv) be addressed to the Lender or the Board at its address or telecopier number set forth under its name on the signature pages of this Guarantee, and (v) be deemed to be given for the purposes of this Guarantee on the day that such notice is received by the intended recipient thereof.

6.4. [Benefit of Agreement](#). Subject to Section 5.6, this Guarantee shall be binding upon, inure to the benefit of and be enforceable by the respective successors and permitted assigns of the parties hereto.

6.5. [Entire Agreement](#). This Guarantee contains the entire agreement among the parties hereto regarding the subject matter hereof. In the event that any term of any of the Loan

Documents conflicts with any term of this Guarantee, the terms and provisions of this Guarantee shall control to the extent of such conflict.

6.6. [Amendment or Waiver](#). This Guarantee may not be amended or otherwise modified except in writing signed by the Board and the Lender, and no provision hereof may be waived without the prior written consent of whichever of the Board or the Lender, is to be bound thereby.

6.7. [Severability](#). To the extent permitted by applicable law, the illegality or unenforceability of any provision of this Guarantee shall not in any way affect or impair the legality or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Guarantee.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have caused this Guarantee to be duly executed and delivered as of the date first above written.

**THE EMERGENCY [STEEL] [OIL AND GAS]  
LOAN GUARANTEE BOARD**, an  
instrumentality of the United States of America

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Attention:

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

**[LENDER]**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Attention:

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT OF BORROWER

[ ], the Borrower under the Loan Agreement, hereby acknowledges that the Board is issuing this Guarantee to the Lender in support of the Loan in reliance on, inter alia, the representations, warranties and agreements of Borrower under the Loan Documents and the information relating to Borrower and the Security contained in the Application. Borrower further acknowledges that, any statute or judicial decision to the contrary notwithstanding, no payment by the Board to the Lender under this Guarantee shall reduce, discharge, satisfy or terminate any obligation of Borrower under any of the Loan Documents or any obligation of any party to the Security Documents. Borrower represents and warrants to the Board that, as of the date hereof: (i) Borrower is eligible under the terms of the Act and the Regulations for a loan benefiting from this Guarantee; (ii) all of the certifications, representations and warranties of the Lender contained in the Application and relating to Borrower or the Security, and the information and documentation provided by the Lender with the Application relating to Borrower or the Security, were when made, and are as of the date hereof, true, correct and complete in all material respects; (iii) Borrower has complied with all conditions to the issuance by the Board of this Guarantee as set out in the Act, Regulations and Offer of Guarantee; (iv) as of the date hereof, there has been no material adverse change since the submission to the Board of the Application in the value of the Security or in the business, operations, assets, liabilities (contingent or otherwise), or financial condition of the Borrower; and (v) Borrower has complied with all conditions to the making of the Loan as required under the Loan Agreement. Borrower hereby consents to the payment of the Guarantee Fee by the Lender on Borrower's behalf when and as required under Section 2.5. Borrower hereby agrees that it shall (a) submit to and cooperate with (i) an audit of its books and records annually during the term of the Loan if so requested by the Board, such audit to be conducted at Borrower's expense by the General Accounting Office or such other independent auditor as may be acceptable to the Board in its sole discretion and (ii) any other audit or investigation conducted in accordance with Section 3.6 or Section 5.8, and (b) provide the Lender in a timely manner with all documentation and information necessary for the Lender to satisfy its reporting and notice obligations to the Board under Sections 5.3 and 5.4 of this Guarantee.

[BORROWER]

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

**[SINGLE LENDER FORM]**

**EXHIBIT A  
OFFER OF GUARANTEE**

**[SINGLE LENDER FORM]**

**EXHIBIT B  
LOAN AGREEMENT**

**[SINGLE LENDER FORM]**

**EXHIBIT C**  
**FORM OF QUARTERLY COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

Table of Contents

	Page #
<b>SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS AND PRINCIPLES OF CONSTRUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1. Defined Terms .....	1
1.2. Principles of Construction .....	3
<b>SECTION 2. THE GUARANTEE.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1. Guarantee .....	4
2.2. Coverage of the Guarantee .....	4
2.3. Termination of Guarantee Obligations.....	4
2.4. Revocation of Borrower's Payment .....	5
2.5. The Guarantee Fee .....	5
2.6. Waiver of Conditions .....	5
<b>SECTION 3. CLAIM PROCEDURES.....</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1. Notice of Payment Default .....	6
3.2. Acceleration .....	6
3.3. Demand for Payment.....	6
3.4. Additional Information.....	6
3.5. Conclusive Presumption Regarding Demand .....	7
3.6. Board's Right to Investigate.....	7
3.7. Payment By the Board.....	7
3.8. Foreclosure and Liquidation.....	7
3.9. Application of Collections .....	7
3.10. Accounting and Reports; Payment of Collections .....	8
3.11. Subrogation and Assignment .....	8
3.12. Board Payment Does Not Discharge Borrower .....	9
3.13. No Waiver of Recovery by the Board .....	9
<b>SECTION 4. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES .....</b>	<b>9</b>
4.1. Representations and Warranties of the Lender .....	9
4.2. [Intentionally Omitted.].....	10
<b>SECTION 5. ADDITIONAL UNDERTAKINGS OF THE LENDER .....</b>	<b>10</b>
5.1. [Intentionally Omitted.].....	10
5.2. Register.....	10
5.3. Monitoring; Notices .....	10
5.4. Other Information.....	11
5.5. Prohibited Amendments.....	11
5.6. Transfer of Rights, Duties and Responsibilities.....	11
5.7. Indemnification .....	12
5.8. Audit and Investigation; Cooperation .....	12
5.9. Duty of Care and Diligence.....	12
5.10. Maintenance of Security.....	13
5.11. Written Recommendations.....	13
5.12. Authorized Representatives.....	13

<b>SECTION 6. MISCELLANEOUS.....</b>	<b>13</b>
6.1. Governing Law.....	13
6.2. Waiver of Jury Trial .....	13
6.3. Notices.....	13
6.4. Benefit of Agreement .....	13
6.5. Entire Agreement .....	13
6.6. Amendment or Waiver.....	14
6.7. Severability.....	14